

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A crash barrier assembly, comprising:
a plurality of prismatic, solid material structural elements, at least one of said elements having a shoulder forming two vertical surfaces and a horizontal surface on at least one of its sides, and another element having substantially matching surfaces on at least one of its sides so as to facilitate juxtaposing of said elements,
a coupling structure in the form of a rod traversing said horizontal surface and interconnecting said elements to each other in a manner facilitating relative controlled movement along the horizontal surface of one element with respect to the other about said coupling structure, and
energy-absorbing material different than said solid material, located in at least one of said elements and surrounding at least a portion of said rod,
whereby, upon impact, the relative movement between two adjacent elements about said rod, is controlled by the energy absorbed by the energy-absorbing material.
2. (Original) The crash barrier assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein said elements are generally trapezoidal in shape.
3. (Previously presented) The crash barrier assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein said rod interconnecting two juxtaposed elements and traversing said horizontal surface is disposed in one of a bore and a hole.
4. (Cancelled)

5. **(Currently amended)** The crash barrier assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein said energy-absorbing material comprises one of neoprene, rubber, ~~Teflon®~~ polytetrafluoroethylene, metallic sponge, a metal spring or springs, and hydraulic fluid.

6. (Previously presented) The crash barrier assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein said coupling structure further comprises a cup-lined bore in said horizontal surface, into which said rod extends.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Previously presented) A crash barrier assembly comprising:
a plurality of prismatic, solid material structural elements, at least one of said elements having a shoulder forming two vertical surfaces and a horizontal surface on at least one of its sides, and another element having substantially matching surfaces on at least one of its sides so as to facilitate juxtaposing of said elements,

a coupling structure in the form of a rod traversing said horizontal surface and interconnecting said elements to each other in a manner facilitating relative controlled movement along the horizontal surface of one element with respect to the other about said coupling structure, and

energy-absorbing material different than said solid material, located in at least one of said elements and surrounding at least a portion of said rod, said rod further comprising: a removable plug for the introduction of hydraulic fluid, and a seal for sealing off said cup,

whereby, upon impact, the relative movement between two adjacent elements about said rod, is controlled by the energy absorbed by the energy-absorbing material.

9. (Original) The crash barrier assembly as claimed in claim 8, wherein said plug is a pressure-sensitive plug.

10 - 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously presented) The crash barrier assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein said rod is formed with integral anchoring members.

13. (Previously presented) The crash barrier assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein said rod is formed at its lower portion with a multi-sided body.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously presented) A crash barrier assembly comprising:

a plurality of prismatic, solid material structural elements, at least one of said elements having a shoulder forming two vertical surfaces and a horizontal surface on at least one of its sides, and another element having substantially matching surfaces on at least one of its sides so as to facilitate juxtaposing of said elements,

a coupling structure which interconnects said elements to each other in a manner facilitating relative controlled movement along the horizontal surface of one element with respect to the other about said coupling structure, and

an energy-absorbing material different than said solid material, located in at least one of said elements, the energy-absorbing material being associated with the coupling structure,

whereby, upon impact, the relative controlled movement between two adjacent elements about said coupling structure, is controlled by the energy absorbed by the energy-absorbing material, and

wherein said energy-absorbing material is affixed along one or both of the vertical surfaces of said shoulder.

16. (Previously presented) The crash barrier assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein said energy-absorbing material is disposed in a groove formed in at least one of the vertical surfaces of said shoulder.

17. (Previously presented) A crash barrier assembly, comprising:

a plurality of prismatic, solid material structural elements, at least one of said elements having a shoulder forming two vertical surfaces and a horizontal surface on at least one of its sides, and another element having substantially matching surfaces on at least one of its sides so as to facilitate juxtaposing of said elements;

energy-absorbing material disposed in a groove formed in at least one of the vertical surfaces of said shoulder; and

coupling structure which interconnects said elements to each other in a manner facilitating relative controlled movement along the horizontal surface of one element with respect to the other about said coupling structure, wherein said energy-absorbing material has a reinforcing spring embedded therein.

18 - 23. (Cancelled).